

Healthy RI National Reform Implementation Task Force

Long Term Care Work Group

Notes from 7/6/10 Meeting

Attendance

Vince Mor- Convenor
Bill Flynn
Joan Kwiatkowski
Gail Patry
Kathy Heren
Jim Nyberg
Maureen Maignet

Criminal Background Check

The group discussed the availability of federal funding to expand state capacity for criminal background checks for long term care direct care workers. Further inquiry is needed to determine which state agencies may be eligible to apply for these grant funds and what the issues surrounding state match may be.

State rebalancing incentive program/Money Follows the Person

The group discussed the rebalancing provisions of the Act as a priority for Rhode Island given the high level of interest in rebalancing the long term care system in the state (i.e. Global Waiver, Perry-Sullivan legislation etc.) Integrating these ongoing efforts with the new opportunities presented in the federal act for rebalancing and “money follows the person” initiatives should be a priority focus as this would build on what is already under way in RI. The money follows the person funding comes with some specific restrictions relating to the length of time that the individual must have spent in a nursing home prior to transition to home and community based services – these requirements will require careful examination to determine whether this may be a fit for Rhode Island.

As the details of the requirements for both “rebalancing” and “money follows the person” initiatives the work group will examine and make recommendations. DHS would be the most likely applicant on behalf of RI.

The work group had a general discussion of pertinent questions and data that will need to be gathered in order to pursue either or both of these funding opportunities for expanding home and community based care in the long term care system in RI.

Conclusions

1. RI should pursue the criminal background check funding if a solution can be crafted to the state match requirement
2. Money follows the person-prioritize this opportunity
3. Rebalancing – prioritize this opportunity

Next meeting is July 20